

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawing includes changes to Figs. 1 and 2, in that Figs. 1 and 2 have been labeled as --Prior Art--. The attached sheet of drawing replaces the original sheet including Figs. 1 and 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

### REMARKS

Claims 1-24, 26-32, and 35-61 are pending in this application. Claims 3 and 10 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention; these changes are made for the purposes of clarification only, and no change in scope of these claims is either intended or believed to be effected by these changes. Claims 1 and 10 are in independent form.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1-9, 19-24, 26-32, 35-48, 50-52, and 54-61, and the indication that Claims 10-18, 49, and 53 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection set forth in the Office Action. Since it is believed that the objection has been overcome as further explained below, the latter claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

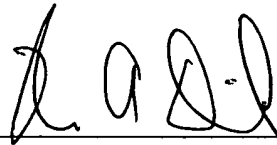
At paragraph 1 of the Office Action, Figs. 1 and 2 were objected to for not being labeled --Prior Art--. The attached sheet of drawing includes changes to Figs. 1 and 2, in that Figs. 1 and 2 have been so labeled. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

At paragraph 2 of the Office Action, Claims 10-18, 49, and 53 were objected to because of an informality. In particular, Claim 10 included a typographical error in that 2 P<sup>p-ni</sup> should be changed to --2<sup>p-ni</sup> --. Applicants have so amended Claim 10. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to Claims 10-18, 49, and 53 is respectfully requested.

At paragraph 3 of the Office Action, the abstract was objected to, with the Examiner stating that "the form and legal phraseology 'said' is used in the abstract on line 1." However, the abstract does not recite the word "said", as the Examiner agreed in telephone correspondence with the undersigned attorney. Nevertheless, the abstract has been amended herein to ensure that it is in proper form in accordance with MPEP § 608.01(b). Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the abstract is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. A. DiPerna", written over a horizontal line.

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### CLEAN VERSION OF ABSTRACT

--An original information sequence is encoded by means of an error correcting code. There is associated with the encoded sequence  $K$  frequency symbols in a space consisting of a series of  $2^p$  increasing frequencies, each of the  $K$  symbols representing  $N$  encoded symbols, with  $p$ ,  $K$  and  $N$  being strictly positive integers. There is applied to the  $K$  symbols a reversible transformation including a multiplication by an invertible matrix of size  $N \times N$ , and signals obtained from the inverse transform signals are sent. There exists a  $K$ -tuple of positive integers  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k$  at least one of which is strictly positive, such that, for an integer  $I$  varying from 1 to  $K$ , after periodic extraction of one frequency out of  $2^{n_i}$  among the frequencies of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  of the  $K$  symbols, thus forming a reduced frequency symbol of  $2^{p-n_i}$  frequencies,  $K$  reduced frequency symbols are obtained, representing the original information sequence, with a view to complete or partial decoding.--

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